

# Personal Learning Environments in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

TCH 505 Instructional Technology for Today's Educator

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# What are Personal Learning Environments?

- PLE emerged along with information technology advancement, which made learning resources, learning tools, and learning process more controllable and manageable at a personal level. PLEs is a self-directed, self-paced learning environment with use of open sources and free online tools from the Internet.
- The process could be explained as the following.
  - Decide and define learning goals and objectives
  - Manage learning content, tools and process
  - Discuss and share learning both in content and process with friends face-to-face and on the Internet
  - Share learning results with friends
  - Get feedback from the social network world
  - Turn learning into a completed project or a product

# Components of Personal Learning Environment

- Setting Goals
- Preparing learning resources
- Preparing learning tools
- Scheduling
- Communicating and documenting learning results
- Reflecting

# 01. Setting Goals

- Daily learning goals
- Specific knowledge and skills
- Work related training
- Long term professional development plan (pursue a degree, certificate,...)

## 02. Preparing Learning Resources

- Searching resources
- Evaluating resources
- Organizing resources
- Sequencing resources

# 03. Preparing Learning Tools

- Daily Use Tools
  - Dictionary
  - Note taking
  - Sharing
  - Handhelds
- Formal Tools
  - Writing
  - Graphing
  - Audio/Video
  - Communicating
  - Storing
  - Website

# 04. Scheduling

- Short term (Day/Week)
- Middle term (Month/Semester, Season)
- Long term (Year)

# 05. Communicating and Documenting Learning Results

- Presenting
- Publishing
- Sharing
- Storing



# 06. Reflection

- Reflection on feedback from an intimate learning community
- Reflect on feedback through targeted surveys
- Reflection on feedback from public open social network publication

# Learning Plan Template

Introduction		
1	Setting Goals	
2	Preparing Learning Resources	
3	Preparing Learning Tools	
4	Scheduling	
5	Communicating and Documenting Learning Results	
6	Reflecting on Learning	

# Summary

- Learning is never ending. New information for a learning topic is updated monthly, daily, even hourly.
- One must keep a persistent learning momentum to keep up with knowledge updating pace
- Everyone is capable to control and manage your learning in terms of content, resources, process, and results.
- PLEs is a new learning model in parallel with school learning environment today